



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of Information Policy  
Suite 11050  
1425 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

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Telephone: (202) 514-3642

August 21, 2019

Austin Evers  
American Oversight  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Re: DOJ-2017-003483 (AG)  
DOJ-2017-003669 (DAG)  
DOJ-2017-003670 (OLA)  
DRH:ERH

Dear Austin Evers:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request made via the Office of Information Policy FOIAonline Portal and received in this Office on April 12, 2017, in which you requested records reflecting communications between the Department of Justice and any member of Congress or their office related to communications between Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Sergey Kislyak or any other Russian official.

Please be advised that a search has been conducted in the Offices of the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, and Legislative Affairs, as well as of the electronic database of the Departmental Executive Secretariat, which is the official records repository for the Offices of the Attorney General, and Deputy Attorney General, and certain Office of Legislative Affairs records, including records of Department correspondence, and four pages of material responsive to your request have been located. I have determined that this material is appropriate for release with an excision made pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), which pertains to information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of a third party.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (2012 & Supp V. 2017). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Valeree Villanueva, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request at: Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001; telephone at 202-514-3642; or facsimile at 202-514-1009.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601

Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with my response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal at [https://foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/  
action/public/home](https://foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home). Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within ninety days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,



Douglas R. Hibbard  
Chief, Initial Request Staff

Enclosures

## **Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)**

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**From:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 05, 2017 10:07 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) @judiciary-rep.senate.gov; Lacy, Megan (Judiciary-Rep)  
**Subject:** FW: Breaking News Regarding meetings for tomorrow

FYI

Ted and Megan, here is our courtesy visit schedule for tomorrow. I pass along the articles so that you have the info in one place and know what we are expecting to get as incoming.

Zach

Monday's Schedule:

### **12:00: Sen. Van Hollen (110 Hart)**

- Senator Van Hollen Website
- March 2, 2017
- Van Hollen Calls for Sessions to Resign
- "The Attorney General holds a special position as top law enforcement officer in our country. Anyone serving in that position must have the confidence of the American people to be an honest and independent broker who protects the fundamentals of our democracy. In failing to tell the truth – under oath – about his conversations with Russia at a time when so many questions surround Moscow's effort to influence our elections and the nature of their relationship to individuals in the Trump Administration, it is clear that Attorney General Sessions is no longer able to meet that standard and must resign. Additionally, Mr. Sessions should immediately be called to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee under oath so we can determine exactly how many conversations took place, when they happened, and what was discussed. This public accounting is essential to restoring the integrity of the Judiciary Committee process in the light of the Attorney General's misleading statements. We must act decisively to ensure that the American people have full faith and confidence in the institutions of our democracy that are charged with protecting their rights."
- <https://www.vanhollen.senate.gov/content/van-hollen-calls-sessions-resign>

### **2:00: Sen. Hirono (730 Hart)**

- POLITICO
- March 2, 2017
- Republicans call on Sessions to recuse himself from Russia probe
- "Sen. Mazie Hirono of Hawaii, said that confirmation hearing for the DOJ deputies should be delayed until senators get more information about the Sessions controversy, adding that 'at this point, I feel as though the entire department has been compromised.'"
- <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/03/jeff-sessions-russia-contacts-congress-reaction-235605>

### **2:30: Sen. Feinstein (331 Hart)**

- She has contacted the IG and requested an investigation
  - <http://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=0E682A32-A10F-47D3-B2B2-AEC22A8607E0>
- **Newsmax**
- **March 5, 2017**
- **Feinstein: Special Prosecutor Needed on Russia Despite Recusal**
- "It seems to me that a very prudent step at this time would be the appointment of a special prosecutor . . . Somebody who is without blemish, someone who has inordinate skill and who can put together the kind of robust investigation that needs to be done . . . Somebody who is independent from everyone that's there now."
- <http://www.newsmax.com/Politics/dianne-feinstein-special-prosecutor-russia-recusal/2017/03/02/id/776619/>

### 3:00: Sen. Klobuchar (302 Hart)

- Calling for IG investigation
- <http://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=0E682A32-A10F-47D3-B2B2-AEC22A8607E0>

### 3:45: Sen. Blumenthal (706 Hart)

- Vowing to block DAG if no special counsel appointment
- <http://64.147.104.30/homenews/senate/322437-senate-judiciary-dem-vows-to-block-deputy-ag-nominee-if-he-doesnt-appoint-a>

### 4:30: Sen. Coons (127A Russell)

- **NPR**
- **March 3, 2017**
- **Sen. Coons Wants Sessions To Answer Senate Panel's Russian Questions**
- "Well, I think the most important thing here is that the attorney general has recused himself from the ongoing investigation into Russian interference in our election. I wish and hope that the attorney general will come back to the Judiciary Committee and testify in person about why he gave untruthful answers before . . . I think it's important that we get to the bottom of what he was thinking when he gave this answer. It was certainly not a full and truthful answer. And I think we need to focus on the main issue here, which is that he's recused himself from an ongoing investigation."
- "Senator Sessions, during his confirmation process, really wasn't fully forthcoming in his answers to many of our questions. And I do think it's worth pressing him on some of the issues that he didn't fully answer. I also think, to your point, it's important for us to focus on the main issue here, which is fully investigating Russia's intrusion into our election."
- "I am encouraged that the attorney general has now publicly said he would recuse himself. And now I think we need to monitor whether he does in fact effectively recuse himself from this investigation."

<http://www.npr.org/2017/03/03/518292181/sen-coons-wants-sessions-to-answer-senate-panels-russian-questions>

## **Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)**

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**From:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 05, 2017 10:08 PM  
**To:** Shah, Prerak (Judiciary-Rep)  
**Subject:** SJC statements by minority members

Pre,

Please see the following news articles below. I know you have much going on and just wanted to pass along this open source material in one location so you know what we are likely to see on Tuesday.

Thanks very much,

Zach

## **Sen. Van Hollen**

- **Senator Van Hollen Website**
- **March 2, 2017**
- **Van Hollen Calls for Sessions to Resign**
- "The Attorney General holds a special position as top law enforcement officer in our country. Anyone serving in that position must have the confidence of the American people to be an honest and independent broker who protects the fundamentals of our democracy. In failing to tell the truth – under oath – about his conversations with Russia at a time when so many questions surround Moscow's effort to influence our elections and the nature of their relationship to individuals in the Trump Administration, it is clear that Attorney General Sessions is no longer able to meet that standard and must resign. Additionally, Mr. Sessions should immediately be called to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee under oath so we can determine exactly how many conversations took place, when they happened, and what was discussed. This public accounting is essential to restoring the integrity of the Judiciary Committee process in the light of the Attorney General's misleading statements. We must act decisively to ensure that the American people have full faith and confidence in the institutions of our democracy that are charged with protecting their rights."
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## **Sen. Hirono**

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- "Sen. Mazie Hirono of Hawaii, said that confirmation hearing for the DOJ deputies should be delayed until senators get more information about the Sessions controversy, adding that 'at this point, I feel as though the entire department has been compromised.'"
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- **Newmax**
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- **Feinstein: Special Prosecutor Needed on Russia Despite Recusal**
- "It seems to me that a very prudent step at this time would be the appointment of a special prosecutor . . . Somebody who is without blemish, someone who has inordinate skill and who can put together the kind of robust investigation that needs to be done . . . Somebody who is independent from everyone that's there now."
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